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THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

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P.E. 1913.

THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING

VOL. II, NO. 10. DESEMBER 1913.

K *v.* C.—*The voeting nou standz at: K, 221; C, 87. In the prezent isyu ov* THE PIONEER *k iz yuzd az an eksperiment in order tu maik the hoel kwestion kleerer. Meni memberz hav not yet rekorded thair voets. Thai mai stil duu so.*

AWAIK!

Kan not mor ov the memberz ov the S.S.S. engaij in rieting leterz tu the Pres? Never in the histori ov the "fonetik" muuvment haz thair been a mor simpathetik konstityuensi tu apeel tu, nor hav editorz been mor wiling tu insurt kontribyushonz. The armi ov rieterz miet veri konsiderabli be inkreest.

Thoez hu hav not tiem tu enter intu nyuspaiper korespondens kan undertaik tu surkyulait Simplified Speling literatyur when rieting tu or viziting frendz, or bi plaising leeflets in Reeding Roomz, publik bildingz, railwai karijez, or publik gatheringz.

Aul kan manifest a mor mishonari interest in helping tu spred the nyuz ov a beter speling abraud. From a seed a tree, from seedz a forest. Whot mai a leter or leeflet beget?

Brook Villa, Hetton-le-Hole. H. DRUMMOND.

THE sekond yeer ov our aktiv propaganda iz drauing tu its kloez, and az we look bak upon it we hav reezon tu be satisfied. Thair iz groing interest in our wurk; opozishon we ar stedili oeverkuming. Bi meenz ov lektyurz, artiklz in the pres, and the distribyushon ov pamflets, we ar gradyuali shatering the kredit ov the bad oeld speling and prepairing the wai for sumthing beter.

We hav mor and mor reezon tu beleev that the skeem we poot forwerd iz wel syuted for its purpos ov surving az a baisis for diskushon. If we had kontented ourselvz with meer konsistensi in the reprezentaishon ov the konsonants, and with omiting myut leterz, we shood hav had a much eezier taask; for heer thair iz litl room for diferens ov opinion. Whether we shood riet *c* or *k* woz a doutful kwestion from the begining; our memberz, aafter heering argyuments on boeth siedz, hav desieded in faivor ov *k*, which we akordingli adopt in this isyu. Anuther point which thai mai wish tu desied befor long iz the adviezabiliti ov yuzing *dh* az wel az *th*.

Az for the omishon ov sielent leterz, that iz the obvius dyuti ov a rashonal speling which propoesez tu reprezent oenli the soundz that ar aktyuali hurd.

We went further, and takld the far mor difikult problem ov reprezenting the vouel soundz. The difikulti heer iz tuufoeld: bekauz thair ar such grait diferensez in the prezent speling, and bekauz it iz heer that we meet with the graitest diferensez in the pronunsiaishon.

Whairaz we hav sufishent sienz for the konsonants, if we eksept the sound for which *zh* haz been jenerali aksepted az a syutabl reprezentaishon, the Latin alfabet haz suplied us with oenli siks sienz for aul our vouel soundz. Tu maik up for this we hav natyurali adopted the devies which haz long been yuzd in English—naimli, that ov yuzing tuu vouelz tugether tu ekspres a sound difering from that ov the vouelz yuzd sepaaraitli. Nou, in duing so we wer ofen faist bi the difikulti that the prezent speling aforded no kleer indikaishon, az the saim sound woz riten in several diferent waiz with aulmoest eekwal freekwensi. It iz oenli natyural that our tentativ solyushon ov the vairius problemz haz not met with everibodi'z akseptans; but thair iz no jeneral agreement az tu whot shood be substityuted for our propoezalz. Further diskushon ov the kwestionz involvd wil doutles bring us neerer tu a solyushon.

Whot, houever, komplikaits the problem veri much iz the diferens in pronunsiaishon which kritisizmz ov our skeem hav braut tu liet. The fonetishan haz, ov kors, been familiar with theez aul along; but the majoriti ov our memberz ar not fonetishanz, and we ventyur tu think that not the leest valyuabl part ov our wurk liez in kleering up the miendz ov our reederz az tu the importans ov arieving at an understanding with regard tu standerd speech.

We tauk glibli about "good English" pronunsiaishon, but when we kum tu analiez whot we meen bi it we fiend that thair iz much unsurtinti. Nuthing kood be mor ilyuminaiting than sum ov the leterz which reech the Editor, with thair freekwent asurshonz that "no edyukaited speeker" failz tu obzurv this distinkshon or that, or wood pronouns this wurd or that in a surtin wai. Az a ruul, such staitments ar baist on kwiet insufishent evidens. The rieter iether jeneraliezez from hiz oen praktis, without having obzurvd in eni siëntifik wai the speech ov meni utherz, or he alouz the speling tu inflooens him in hiz iedeaz az tu hou the langwij shood be pronounst. Thair kan indeed be litl dout that, on the hoel, the prezent jenerai-shon haz had insufishent fonetik training; but thingz ar chainjing

rapidli in this respekt. In the teeching ov modern langwijez the relaishon ov the riten tu the spoeken wurd iz being emfasiezd, and the sukses atending the aplikaishon ov fonetiks tu the studi ov French and German iz leeding tu its introdukshon in the teeching ov the muther tung. The nekst jeneraishon wil be beter prepaird for a diskushon ov speling reform.

We duu not wish tu implie that aul kritisizm ov our skeem iz baist on insufishent nolej; far from it. A grait deel ov it iz wel reezond and tu the point. Whot we duu maintain iz that, taiking the publik az a hoel, we hav tu kontinyu with undiminisht zeel the edyukaishonal part ov our wurk. It iz with this objekt that we hav dyuring the paast yeer sekyurd the insurshon, in meni nyuspaiperz and magazeenz, ov artiklz deeling not so much with speling reform az with standerd speech, dialekt speech, and so on. We need an agreement az tu standerd speech befor we kan definitli deel with standerd speling; and we hav tu konvins the man in the street, or at eni rait the edyukaited man, that it iz a mater ov grait importans that we shood lai doun kleerli whot we meen bi "standerd speech."

This iz our reezon for selekting this subjekt for diskushon at our meeting on Janyuari 5, when it iz hoept that thair wil be a good atendans ov our memberz and utherz interested in the kwestion. It shood be an auspishus oepening ov our thurd yeer'z wurk, in which we hoep we mai dezurv and reseev the kontinyud suport ov aul our memberz and a grait inkrees in our numberz. It iz an uphil fiet, but we ar ful ov hoep and enerji, and we ar going tu win.

THE LESON OV SIËNS.

SUR WILLIAM RAMSAY ON SPELING REFORM.

THIS aij ov the wurld iz pre-eminentli the aij ov aplied siëns. Pooting asied the konsideraishon ov grait acheevments, such az the praktikal yutiliezaishon ov elektrisiti in the dienamoe, the elektrik liet, the telegraaf, the telefoen, in deetail, let us aask in whot wai thai hav kontribyuted tu our kumfort and konveeniens. Evidentli bi maiking lief eezier and bi giving us mor tiem for our prievait okyupaishonz. For instans, insted ov spending a kworter ov an our in rieting a leter, we ring up our frend on the foen, and in tuu minits we hav sed much mor than we shood hav riten and aulso had an aanser tu our komyunikaishon.

Nou, telefoenz hav been plaist at our dispoezal bi siëntifik

inventorz, the cheef ov huum iz Mr. Graham Bell; but in theez daiz everiwun, partikyularli teecherz, shood hav absorbd at leest sum ov the siëntifik spirit. Thair iz no yus in duing a thing in a klumzi, aukwerd wai when we kan du it in an eezi wai. (And I wont tu plais the best instrooments ov teeching at the dispoezal ov the noebl band ov thoez hu toil in our infant skuulz, partikyularli.) But we must help ourselvz. I hav noetist that in kontrieving sum pees ov aparaitus for an investigaishon I aulwaiz begin with a veri komplikaited wun; laiter on it bekumz much simplified. I supoez that teecherz hav had this ekspeeriens.

Our speling haz been inherited from our forfaatherz. It iz in meni instansez rong; for egzaampl, "sulphur" for the Latin wurd *sulfur*, "rhyme" insted ov the Saxon wurd *rime*, and in inyumerabl utherz. It iz in aul instansez unsurtin, for it iz no les difikult tu remember that a wurd iz spelt konsistëntli than tu remember a grotesk speling. Whi duu we not aulter it?

Furst, I think, bekauz fyu peepl hav konsiderd the mater and the veri strong argyuments in faivor ov an aulteraishon. Sekond, on akount ov a kyurius tendensi in hyuman naityur: we taik pried in whot we hav lurnd with difikulti, eeven tho it be kwiet yusles. Thurd, bekauz it iz supoezd that, if aulterd, our speling wil sees tu be yuniform. The aanser tu this thurd objekshon iz that, just az we rekogniez the orijin ov a man from hiz aksent, so we kood tel from hiz speling whair he kumz from. And whi not? Tu reform our speling and tu maik it fonetik wood tend tu maik pronunsiaishon yuniform, for peepl wood suun fiend out in whot respekts thai diferd from the majoriti ov thair kuntrimen, and wood be forst tu reform thair aksents. In uther wurdz, the charm ov the spoeken langwij wood be taut mor and mor in our skuulz. And teecherz wood rejois in the lief az opoezd tu the leter ov the wurd.

I am not wun ov thoez hu think that the sistem I am yuzing iz the best atainabl. Nuthing hyuman iz the best atainabl. But I beleev it tu be an enormus advaans on our kustomari speling, and az such I am wiling tu adopt it. It iz not difikult; I hav no mor difikulti in rieting theez lienz in this speling than in ordinari speling; I riet kwiet az faast and with az litl thaut az tu the wurd form. Hou kwikli our children wil be aibl tu akwier it, and with the tiem thai hav saivd from meer drujeri paas on tu the nolej that bekonz them in the goelden land ov yuth. I am speeking mor espeshali tu teecherz, and I hav speshali choezen this theem, bekauz I wont the hie-wai along which the litl feet ov the yung skolarz hav tu

wauk tu enter intu this grait literatyur ov ourz tu be az eezi and az smuuth az posibl. Let everi teecher hu reedz theez lienz ov mien trie tu konvins himself hou eezi iz this nyu speling. And wuns that konvikshon iz gaind it wil kari with it the beleef that sum form ov reformd speling must be adopted. I kloez with the wurdz ov Whitney az being speshali aproepriait: "It iz the jeneraishonz ov children tu kum hu apeel tu us tu saiv them from the aflikshon which we hav endyurd and forgoten."

WILLIAM RAMSAY.

THE NYU YEER KONFERENS.

WITH this number ov "The Pioneer" programz ar being poested ov the Konferens ov Edyukaishonal Sosietiz which iz being held at the London Yunivursiti from the 2nd tu the 10th ov nekst munth. The aafternuun ov the 5th iz aloted tu this Sosieti, and we inviet memberz and thair frendz tu atend the meeting which iz tu be held in the West Galeri ov the Impeerial Instityut Bildingz at 2.30 p.m. Prof. Gilbert Murray wil prezied; Mis Burstall wil giv an adres; and Prof. Rippmann wil introdyus a debait on "The Standerdiezaishon ov English Speech." London memberz ar surtin tu be thair in multityud. On aplikaishon tu the Konferens Sekretari, Mr. Frank Fairman, M.A., 74 Gower Street, London, W.C., voucherz availabl from the 1st tu the 12th, and authoriezing the railwai jurni at a fair and a thurd, kan be obtaind. A stampt adrest enveloep must be enkloezd with the aplikaishon tu Mr. Fairman. Memberz rezieding not mor than fifti mielz from London kan get voucherz for cheepend dai return tikets bi maiking similar aplikaishon.

It iz propoezd tu isyu a report ov the hoel Konferens. Our meeting wil be reported at length in that Report, and we urj aul our memberz tu order a kopi. It wil be a liebrari ov informaishon on aul edyukaishonal subjekts, and the pries wil not ekseed 1s. 6d. a kopi. An order kard iz encloezd with the program.

SUJESTIONZ AND KRITISIZMZ.

WE reseevd the foloing leter from Dr. J. F. Carruthers, ov Guernsey, sum tiem agoe, and regret that we hav found ourselvz unaibl tu print it befor this. At hiz rekwest we giv it az he haz spelt it, oenli chainjing hiz *c*'z tu *k*'z, tu which we ar shuur he haz no objekshon :—

Yoo inveit koments on dhe interesting korespondens in yoor Joon number. I ventyoor too hoep dhat, if it iz not giving too much trubl, yoo wil print mei komyoonikaishon az riten. It iz spelt akording too dhe sujestyunz I maik in it.

First, I agree enteirli widh Sir William Ramsay dhat we shood ignoer meinor diferensez, but dhair mai be a veri onest diferens ov opinyun az too whot meinor diferensez ar. Dhe latityood aloud us bei yoor sistem deleits mee: it iz boeth taktikal and praktikal. It alouz mee, for instans, too riet "erli, referz, befoer, moer, whirld," which I deliberaitli prefer, az a Scotchman, too "urli, refurz, befor, mor, wurld."

Sir William thinks dhat it wood tend too simplifikaishon if wee seest too diferenshiait between dhe vouel soundz in (1) "man" and "far," (2) "rate" and "haze," (3) "seen" and "scene," (4) "light" and "lie," (5) "not" and "war," (6) "note" and "low," (7) "boot" and "rule." I agree widh him az regaardz (2), (3), (6), (7), but not az too (1), (4), (5). Too mei eer dhair iz a graiter diferens between dhe vouelz ov dhe later seeri'eez dhan between dhoez ov the former. I doo not think dhat dhe soundz ov "man" and "far" or "light" and "lie" or "not" and "war" aut too bee reprezented bei dhe saim simbol. I wood reit "man" and "faar," "not" and "waur," and I wood leik too reit "leit" and "lai," but I rekogneiz dhat dhe simbol *ai* wil probabli hav too bee kept for dhe vouel sound in "laid," "mare," ets. I regret dhis, for I am shoor dhat moest edyookaited men hoo hav lernt Latin, Greek, and German wil agree dhat dhe diferens between *ei* and *ai* egzaktli korespondz too dhe diferens between "light" and "lie." And, after aul, iz it not widh dhe edyookaited peepl dhat dhe ultimait deesizhun wil rest? If wee adopt Simplified Speling, it wil not bee long befoer dhe *οἱ πολλοί* foloe.

Mei impreshun iz dhat nun ov yoor korespondents haz braut out kleerli dhat dhe week spot ov dhe prezent sistem iz dhe eelizhun ov dhe feinal *e* in dhe deigrafs *ie*, *oe*, and *ee*. Dhis feinal *e*, dhoe myoot itself, modifeiz dhe sound ov dhe vouel which preeseedz it. When it iz eeleided dhe remaining vouel reverts too its orijinal valyoo. Dhis leedz too konfyoozhun, az iz pointed out in Mr. Dunton'z ekselent leter on paijez 86, 87 ov dhe Joon PIONEER—a leter which yoo simpli kan not aford too ignoer—in such wurdz az "dezier" and "eezier," "moest" and "loest" ("lowest"), "seest" ("ceased") and "seest" ("see-est"). Mr. Dunton sujests az a remedi dhat dheez deigrafs bee maid invairiabl; but dhis iz not enuf. Dhis wil not remedi wurdz leik dhoez kwoeted abuv, nor such az "bieer" ("buyer"), "loeer" ("lower"). "Seeest," too, looks veri aukward. Sir William Ramsay'z proepoezal too yooz *ue* for *oo* wood oenli ad yet anudher konfyoozhun, *e.g.* "dueer" ("doer"). Sooner or laiter, it seemz too mee, a substityoot wil hav too bee found for dheez deigrafs ending in myoot *e*.

On dhe udher hand, if wee chainj *ie* too *ei*, wee doo not get kweit kleer ov difikulti. Not oenli doo we hav too chainj dhe komon wurdz dhat end in *iez* ("apliez, diez, repliez," ets.), but wee get an okaizhunal konfyoozhun widh a preeseeding vouel. For instans, wun kan not tel whedher "seeing" iz too bee pronounst "se-eing" or "see-ing," "be-eing" or "bee-ing." Egzaktli dhe saim difikulti okurz widh dhe deigraf *ee*. Dhe third wun, *oe*, mai bee replaist bei *ow* or *oa*, widh needher ov which iz konfyoozhun posibl from a preeseeding or a sukseeding vouel. I disagree *in toto* widh Sir William'z sujestyun ov *ue* for *oo*.

Mr. Dunton sujests (paij 87, kl. 7) dhe yoos ov dhe apostrofee too

rektifei dhoez difikultiz; and I think dhis iz dhe best thing too doo until a fikst substityoot bee adopted for aul dhe deigrafs dhat end in myoot *e*. And, az it apleiz eekwali wel too aul three, oenli wun rool haz too bee remsmberd.

I sumareiz mei vyooz, dhen, az foloez :—

1. Yooz dhe apostrofee too mark the "diæresis" whair konfyoozhun wood okur widhout it, and never eeleid dhe myoot *e* at dhe end ov dhe deigrafs *ie*, *oe*, and *ee*. Soe wee shood reit "bee'ing, poe'et, sie'ing" ("sighing").

2. But I wood reit *ei* insted ov *ie*. Dhis wood get rid ov wun ov dhe deigrafs widh a myoot feinal *e*, and wood rektifei such freekwentli okuring wurdz az "apleiing, repleiing, deiing." Dhe fyoo kaisez whair konfyoozhun wood okur widh a preeseeding vouel kan bee poot reit widh dhe apostrofee, *e.g.* "bee'ing, see'ing." Dhis yoos ov *ei* okurz in English in "eider, either, neither," dhoe I grant it iz rair. But it iz veri familyar in Latin, French, German, Spanish, and Italian, and soe wood bee a valyooabl konseshun too forinerz lerning English. I feind, too, dhat it kumz kweit eezili too mei pen az I reit dhis komyoonikaishon. Sir William Ramsay sez dhat hee seez noe objekshun too wun simbol bee'ing yoozd for dhe too soundz ov *i*. I hav dhairfor hiz authoriti for sujesting dhat wee shood reit "heit, leit" az wel az "lei" and "surveival." Mr. Dunton, too, wil bee aibl too distingwish hiz "dezeier" from "eezier," and "soseieti" from "sosieti."

3. *Ow* kan not bee rekomended az a substityoot for *oe* in vyoo ov dhe doutfulnes ov its pronunsiaishon ("row" = "roe" and "rou," "sow" = "soe" and "sou"). *Oa* wood avoid dhe myoot *e* ov dhe deigraf *oe*; but I see dhat yoo hav an objekshun too it. I thaut for a teim dhat *oe* riten az a difthong *œ* wood meet dhe kais. It iz aulredi a printer'z teip, but it wood aulwaiz bee aukward in reiting. Dhe best wai, I think, iz too yooz dhe apostrofee, and Mr. Dunton wood reit "loe'est," "poe'et," "loe'er."

4. I feer dhat *ee* must remain. Dhe apostrofee agen kumz too dhe reskyoo—"see'est, see'ing."

5. I wood reit boeth dhe long and short soundz ov *u* widh *oo*, and get rid ov *uu*, which iz an abominaishon. We shood hav dhen "shoo, rool, yoo, dyoos." Az a rezult I wood restrikt *u* too dhe sound ov "up, fur," ets., and I wood alou it freeli for dhe "neutral vowel" in "baker, tailor," ets. In dhis wai we shood reit "yung" and "yooth," "tung" and "tooth," and, bei reiting "yoor" and "yurning," avoid dhe konfyoozhun dhat Mr. Dunton reitli komplainz ov. Mr. Dunton'z sujestyun ov dhe French *eu* for dhe "neutral vowel" wil never doo. It iz aultugedher too foren.

Az a mater ov fakt wee ar inventing konvenshunz, but it iz cheefli for English peepl dhat wee ar konvenshunaleizing. Noe English-speeking person wil ever maik a mistaik az too whot sound iz ment bei *oo*; wheil meni wil hezitait oever "shuu, puur, and ruul," and stil moer oever Sir William'z "shue, puer, and ruel." Az a praktikal point, too, wee aut not too ad gratyooitusli too dhe konfyoozhun dhat aulredi egzists in reiting *n* and *u* (cp. "shunt" and "shuut").

6. I wood sertinli permit, at eni rait for a teim, an opshunal *k* before *e* and *i*. I am familyar widh dhe A.S. yoos ov dhe hard *c*, but I konfes dhat I kan not rekonseil meiself too "ceep, ciend, taicen, spoecen." I wood reit "keep, keind, taiken, spoeken."

7. I wood hav dhe *dh* opshunal for dhe voist *th*, and kompulsori az soon az thaut praktikabl.

8. I wood emploi *u*, *e*, *a*, or *o* indiferentli for dhe "neutral vowel," and reit "refer" or "refur," "pervert" or "purvurt," "sister" or "sistur," "barbairian" or "barbairiun," "naishun" or "naishon." If wee Scotchmen leik too reit az wel az sai "firm, girl, whirl" insted ov "furm, gurl, whurl"—whei shoodn't wee?

Dheez modifikaishunz seem too mee too anser Mr. Dunton'z objek-

shunz. I shood bee veri glad too noe whot hee and udherz think ov dhem, if yoo see fit too print mei leter.

But dhair iz noe dout yoo wil soon hav too konsider the kwestyun ov aksent. In dhe Mai PIONEER, paij 75, I red: "Wee English aloen pozes the ingloerius distinkshun." Dhat wurd "pozes" fairli poezd mee! Haz yoor Komitee wurkt out dhe posibiliti ov shoeing aksent bei dubling konsonants? In sum wurdz it wood kum out kweit wel—*e.g.* "komittee, travveler, bennefit, sepparait." I am not soe shoor about "aksennt" and "akksent," "prezennt" and "prezzent," "rekorrd" and "rekkord."

Perhaps dhair mai bee sumthing after aul in dhe theeoreez ov our first English filolojist (A.D. 1215):

"Dhiss boc iss nammedd Orrmulum
Forrdhi dhatt Orrm itt wrohhte.
. . . .
And dhatt he loke well dhatt he
On bocstaff write twiggess
Eggwhaer dhaer itt uppo dhiss boc
Iss writen o dhatt wise."

Wil yoo not giv us in an erli PIONEER an Editoerial on dhe advantajez and disadvantajez ov marking aksent bei vairiing dhe speling?

[We mai be aloud tu tuch on sum ov the points raizd bi Dr. Carruthers'z leter.

The distinkshon between the difthongz in "eight" and "lie" iz unfamiliar tu the grait majoriti ov English speekerz. It apeerz that the majoriti ov Scotch speekerz pronouns the ordinari sound when it iz fienal or preseedz the soundz ov *r*, *z*, *v*, or *dh*, but elswhair a difthong ov which the furst sound iz not *e* (az sujested bi Dr. Carruthers), but the nyutral vouel (ov which the fonetik sien iz *ə*). Az tu "man" and "far," we agree that thair iz a markt diferens, but we treet *ar* az a diegraaf, not az *a*+*r*. It iz truu that this kauzez difikulti in a fyu wurdz liek "tarry," whair "taari" (for the ajektiv tu "tar") wood be unambigyuus.

We kan not disgiez the fakt that the vouel diegraafs prezent difikultiz, but we think thai hav been egzajeraited. Aafter aul, the esenshal thing for the English chield iz tu hav a speling ov such a kiend that the uterans ov the korekt soundz wil at wuns sujest the speling. If we wont tu hav a speling which shal sujest tu the forin beginer the korekt pronunsiaishon ov everi wurd we shal hav a much mor difikult taask. Az woz shoen in an urlier number ov THE PIONEER, it wood be kwiet eezi, bi meens ov aksents, ets., tu modifie S.S. in books intended for forin lurnerz. But need we komplikait aul our speling for thair saiks? Mr. Dunton sujests an apostrofi, and Dr. Carruthers apruuvz this; but an apostrofi iz no beter than the "diæresis"—boeth interfeer with the floe ov the pen.

Aafter aul, the difikulti dwelt on okurz in a smaul mienoriti ov kaisez; az a jeneral ruul, when the *e* ov *ee*, *ie*, *oe* iz elieded, the remaining vouel duz *not* revurt tu its orijinal valyu.

The diegraaf *ie* iz bi no meenz a yunivursal faivorit, and thair ar suporterz ov *ei* and ov *y* tu taik its plais.

Thair ar not meni frendz ov *uu*, and thair ar probabli not a fyu hu wood agree tu yuzing *oo* for the long az wel az the short sound; but *yoo* wil hardli pruuv atraktiv. We propoez veri suun tu return tu the konsideraishon ov theez trublsum soundz.

Laastli, tu sujest that surtin spelingz shood be opshonal mai help us temporarili oever our difikultiz; but it wil be wel not tu let this bliend us tu the need ov arieving at a desizhon. Az far az rieting goez, vairiaishonz ar not ov much importans; but for reeding the wurdz must hav definitli establisht formz. In order tu reed kwikli we must be aibl tu rekogniez the wurdz kwikli; and that presupoezez a yuniform speling.]

We hav reseevd several leterz on the subjekt ov *c* vursus *k*. Az thai ar aul in faivor ov *k*, which we hav adopted in this isyu, and az our spais iz so veri limited, we trust our korespondents wil forgiv us for not insurting thair leterz.

We maik an eksepshon (which thai wil apruuv) in kwoeting from a leter sent us bi Mr. H. RAMA CHAR, Sub-Asistant Inspektor ov Skuulz, Madras Prezidensi, hu riets:

> I prefur *k* tu *c*, and the main reezonz for so duing ar the foloing:— Furst, the Indian children hu lurn Sanskrit or the diferent vernakyularz ar never akustomd tu an alfabet which soundz wun wai when pronounst bi itself and kwiet anuther wai when joind with uther leterz in a wurd. The leter *c* haz tu the eer ov the Indian chield the sound ov *s* in English which korespondz tu *sa* of Sanskrit, Telugu, Canarees, ets. He iz thairfor meni a tiem puzld when aaskt tu pronouns the leter az *c* and the kombinaishon ov *c-a-t* az "cat." He prefurz tu riet "cat" az "kat." If the opoenents ov our Sosieti wish tu maik fun ov speling reform bi rieting "kat," "komik," and so on, let them pleez themselvz. Thai laaf eeven nou az the memberz ov the S.S.S. riet "ceep" for "keep," "ceen" for "keen," and so on. No grait reform haz ever advaanst without opoenents. The kwestion ov uglines iz oenli a mater ov tiem, and wil disapeer with with yuzij and familiariti. Nekst, tu sai that *c* iz eezi tu riet, whairaz *k* iz mor difikult iz aulso an argyument baist on no uther substanshal ground than that ov meer whimz and konvenshonz. The diferens ov enerji lost in rieting *k* insted ov *c* iz miekroskopikali smaul and praktikali *nil*. The saim aanser hoeldz good when our opoenents sai that in MS. thair iz ofen konfyuzhon between *k* and *h*. Aul iz konfyuzhon in the MS. ov a bad rieter. If we proseed on the lienz ov this argyument we mai hav tu invent nyu formz for the prezent MS. leterz *m*, *n*, *r*, and *u*, which difer litl in the shaip ov thair kurvz and anglz and which ar not eeven nou eezili desieferd in an ilejibl hand. Whotever mai be the shaip ov the leter, we hav oenli tu depend on the teecher in the loër claasez for the distinktnes and lejibiliti in rieting.

Sum wood liek tu goe on yuzing *x* and *qu* for the prezent. Wel, let them duu so; but we kan hardli rekomend theez unnesesari sienz for permanent adopshon. Such opshonal spelingz mai gild the pil for the prezent jeneraishon; for the children ov kuming jeneraishonz thai wood be a hindrans, not a help.

Mr. E. Tanner, ov Kidderminster, riets: "Mai I enter mi strong proetest against the yus ov 'for, mor, sor' for 'fore, more, sore,' ets.?" Mr. R. Atkinson, ov Bradford, riets: "Yur 'for'='four, fore,' insted ov 'foer,' sujests the provinshal pronunsiaishon ov the South and confoundz the prefiksez in 'forget' and 'foretell.' It iz a konfyuzhon unnoen north ov the Humber and in Ireland, unrekogniezd bi the dikshonariz, and at leest az much tu be diskountenanst az the yunivursal tendensi tu blur unstrest vouelz in wurdz ov forin orijin. I speek feelingli, bekauz boeth the prefikses 'for' and 'fore' ar stil aliev in the byutiful foektauk ov the North and must be kept up if our English iz ever tu be enricht from within." Mr. B. Sprague, ov Edinburgh, riets: "'Mor': this speling indikaits a sluvenli pronunsiaishon that wood maik no diferens between 'horse' and 'hoarse,' between 'or' and 'oar,' between 'for' and 'fore,' ets."

[We hav repeetedli reseevd kritisizmz ov this kiend, and pleed gilti tu having maid no distinkshon whair nun iz maid in Suthern English. Whot iz the distinkshon? Our korespondents wood apairentli be satisfied if we roet "moer, hoers, oer, foer," which impliez that thai heer pronouns the saim vouel az in "roed." Nou meni (not aul) Scottish speekerz duu pronouns such a wurd az "four": *f*+ thair vouel in "roed" (a long vouel, not a difthong) +*r* (konsonantal). English speekerz hu maik the distinkshon hav a diferent pronunsiaishon ov theez wurdz. Thai duu not giv a pyur long vouel, nor the difthong which thai uter in "roed." In boeth sets ov wurdz thai giv an oepen *au* sound; but in the "hoarse, four, oar" wurdz the sound iz a litl les oepen, and thair iz a distinkt "nyutral vouel" aafter it. Hou far the distinkshon iz prezurvd bi edyukaited speekerz in England it wood be interesting tu asertain. We shood be glad tu reseev lists ov wurdz containing *-or-* or *-oar-*, arainjd in tuu kolumz, from speekerz hu maik a diferens; a noet az tu aij, plais ov rezidens at vairius tiemz, and uther points important for estimaiting thair speech, wood aulso be welkum.]

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 1912.

SUR GILBERT BARKER, M.P., sez that nyuspaiper reporting shoez a grait deklien in akyurait heering. Mr. Granville Barker asurts that theatrikal audiensez heer badli. Kood a modern audiens foloe a Shakespearean plai if it wer spoeken az faast az Elizabethan aktorz must hav spoeken it? The "Journal of Education" maiks an apeel for the reeding aloud ov poëtri in skuulz, so that the sens ov Eer-gait mai be beter traind. We ventyur tu ad that this deteerioraishon haz kum about simpli bekauz, az Dr. Henry Bradley sez, **English haz been taut az a riten and not az a spoeken langwij.**

"SUCH az we hoep English wil wun dai bekum, when we maik our speling az simpl az our gramar, and giv up the absurd fashon ov *rieting wun sound and speeking anuther!*"—Prof. J. P. MAHAFFY, D.D.

AT the instigaishon ov Mr. Henry Drummond, Prof. Lounsbury'z *English Spelling and Spelling Reform* haz been aded tu the Sunderland Sentral Liebrari. Meni ov our frendz wood duu a grait survis tu the Speling Reform muuvment, wer thai tu indyus thair Liebrairianz tu plais this admirabl wurk upon the shelvz ov thair liebrariz. It wood kounterakt the fauls sentimentaliti fosterd bi the wurks ov Archbishop Trench and, whot iz ov graiter importans, impart mor akyurait nolej ov the histori ov English speling.

"I AM teeching Spanish," sed a speeker at a Bradford N.U.T. meeting, "and in a leson wun our long mi pyupilz lurn tu reed—not, ov kors, tu understand—with eez. In siksti minits I akomplish whot taiks munths in English." And duu we English liv longer than thai ov Spain that we ar so prodigal ov tiem?

THE saim speeker witili refurd tu paasing whimz ov fashon. A krinoleen woz wuns "byutiful," and nou the ekstreem opozit ov it iz konsiderd so. Eech degree between haz in turn flasht intu faivor and flikerd out, tu be rekond "ugli" in our iez. But krinoleenz in speling—"plough, delight, sovereign"—pozes a ravishing byuti bekauz thai ar stil the fashon! Supoez we chainj the fashon; the voisez that nou kaul doun thunder and lietning upon the nyu speling—"it iz *so* ugli"—wood in sweet korus chaant the byuti ov wizdom'z dres.

"A JENERAISHON which haz aksepted the tieprieter, the telegraaf, the telefoen, the moetor-kar, tu speek ov but a fyu inovaishonz, intu the tekstyur ov its daili lief wood suun akomodait itself tu chainjd speling, and wood, in fakt, kum tu marvel that a literari instrooment so intelijent and indispensabl kaim so lait intu jeneral yus." The speeker woz wun ov London'z best noen fonograferz.

IN the "Outlook" (New York) the leterz ov kolej styudents wer analiezd in surch ov an aanser tu the kwestion: "Iz the kolej maiking good?" The wimen gradyuaits had difikulti with speling—it woz, in fakt, thair "cheef trubl."

"In thurti-fiev leterz thair wer oever siksti mistaiks in speling—not in the speling ov abstruus or teknikal wurdz, but thoez in komon yus." The men gaiv beter rezults. Stil, Harvard topt the list ov mis-spelingz with such formz az "pleasentest, oppinion, wellfare," ets., Yale kuming sekond with "moraly, compullsorey, batchelor, mentaly," ets. (It wood be interesting tu set a test at Oxford and Cambridge.) The rieter ov the artikl inklienz tu sai that, jujing from theez and similar rezults, kolej iz not "maiking good." But posibli hiz standerdz ov jujment need revizhon. The prezens ov mis-spelingz duz not pruuv the absens ov intelijens. The biznes men ov London ar not the les wiez for having abandond the silk hat.

Dr. Bowden, Profesor ov Mathematiks at Adelphi Kolej, U.S.A., wun ov the moest kuraijus advokaits ov beter speling, telz ov a debait held at a preparatori skuul for Adelphi and other kolejez. Yunanimusli it woz rezolvd "that Simplified Speling iz dezierabl."

In sum strainj fashon a misprint krept intu the noet laast munth about "Titles of Honor." The naim shood be Selden, ov kors, not Lerden. A referens tu the *Oxford English Dictionary* shoez that the formz "honor" and "honour" wer eekwali komon doun tu the seventeenth sentyuri, and "honour" fienali prevaild in England oenli lait in the aiteenth sentyuri. "Heer, az in meni kaisez," adz Sur Frederick Pollock, "the so-kauld korekt speling iz meerli an arbitrari ruul ov printerz."

Mr. Fisher Unwin haz publisht a book on Eucken, bi Dr. Meyrick Booth. "The modern egzaminaishon sistem," sez the author, "konstityuts a vaast netwurk ekstending aul oever the siviliezd wurld, surving tu hoeld bak from neerli aul the hiër wauks ov lief, and from meni ov the syupeerior loër wauks, aul thoez yung peepl hu fail tu egzibit a surtin desiededli mekanikal tiep ov intelektyual abiliti, no mater hou rich thai mai be in other mental, moral, and praktikal kwolitiz, sum ov them ov the utmoest valyu tu the komyuniti. . . . We hav the spektakl ov a naishon in which 250 men wil aplie for a vaikant poest az a klark at a puur salari whiel larj trakts ov land ar unkultivaited for lak ov kaipabl wurkerz." Speling reformerz mai pried themselvz on the fakt that in edyukaishon thai hav regard tu the wheet and not tu the chaaf.

A Draama: Darknes and Liet.

Enter Curent Topics *in the "Sheffield Telegraph":*

Redundant letters, who says they should disappear? They generally have an historic value. I should be sorry to see even the *-ough* series disappear. God bless them!

Enter a Reformd Speler:

Taik the wurd "disappear." In the siksteenth sentyuri it woz speld "disapere." Eeven "generally" woz speld with wun *l*. And we noe that the speling ov "sorry" with tuu *r*'z iz etimolojikali rong, for it iz formd egzaktli liek "gory" from "gore," which haz not yet been turnd intu "gorry." Thus in a singl sentens or so yu stumbl sadli.

Mr. Leadley riets: "The author ov *The Groundwork ov English History*, speeking ov Raleigh, sez: Raleigh'z naim haz been spelt in seventi diferent waiz. He himself siend hiz naim vairiusli in the kors ov hiz lief, but he never siend it . . . 'Raleigh.'"

Sur Frederick Bridge telz a delietful stori in an adres on "The Beggar's Opera." "The song for 'Polly' woz set tu an oeld Scotch tyun, 'Gin thou were mine awn thing,' and the German translaitor, not noing the meening ov 'gin,' lookt up the wurd in the dikshonari and poot doun *Schnaps!*"

Mr. St. John G. Ervine, sed, in a reesent artikl in the "Daily Mail," "One ov the thingz that furst striek an Irishman when he kumz tu England iz the fakt that the English peepl ar unaibl tu speek their oen langwij. The dropt *h*, for egzaampl, iz inkomprehensibl tu an Irishman. No wun in Ireland or in Scotland omits the aspirait or insurts it whair it haz no biznes tu be. . . . I laitli lisend tu a speech maid bi a veri hieli plaist ekleeziastik, a man ov veri grait intelektyual kwoliti, huuz vois and pronunsiaishon wer such that he miet hav been tauking Volapuk insted ov English." Bekauz, tu repeet Dr. Bradley'z wurdz, English haz been taut az a riten, and not az a spoeken, langwij.

Mr. Walter Morrison, wun ov the moest jenerus suporterz ov the Sosieti, riets: "I vizit a hous in which Bailey'z Dikshonari standz bi the sied ov the furst edishon ov Johnson. Insied ov the former iz riten on the flie-leef 'Samuel Johnson, D.D.' in, I think, hiz rieting. He surtinli nyu it, for I hav oepend it at haphazard and the koresponding paij in Johnson, and he not oenli kopiz the wurdz, but the definishonz, wurd for wurd. No dout he adz sum wurdz and aulterz sum definishonz. But the tietl shood be 'Dikshonari ov the English Langwij, bi Nathaniel Bailey, enlarjd bi Dr. Samuel Johnson.'" In an intervyu in the "Morning Post," Dr. Henry Bradley points out that meni kyurius erorz okur in Johnson'z Dikshonari. Under "morosity," Johnson kwoets from Shakespeare, "But entertain no morosity." For that laast wurd we shood reali reed "no *more of it!*"

"Keep the yung jeneraishonz in hail! Bekweeth them no tumbld hous!"

We welkum tuu distingwisht Vies-Prezidents this munth—Dr. Emery Barnes, Hulsean Profesor ov Diviniti at Cambridge, and Dr. T. B. Sprague, ov Edinburgh, wun ov the graitest ov living aktyuariz. Prof. Barnes'z leter on Biebel speling haz been wiedli kwoeted in the pres. In a noet tu the Sekretari, he riets: "We had a debait on speling reform in kolej laast Saterdai niet. The 'Mikado' woz on at the theater, but mor than haaf ov the juunior memberz kaim tu heer about reform. Mi moeshon woz defeeted bi three voets, but the aiblest *yung* man in kolej (bi a long wai) woz konvurted and spoek with fier in faivor ov reform. The kais ov the children apeeld tu him."

In the "Hibbert Journal" apeerz an artikl bi Prof. John Erskine on "The Moral Obligaishon tu be Intelijent." Aulredi meni referensez hav been maid tu it in the pres. We wish thair wer spais tu giv koepius ekstrakts in theez paijez. "We reali seek intelijens, not for the aanserz it mai sujest tu the problemz ov lief, but bekauz we beleev it iz lief. . . . But the luver ov intelijens must be paishent with thoez hu kan not redili shair hiz pashon. Sum pangz the miend wil inflikt upon the hart. It iz a mistaik tu think that men ar yunieted bi elemental afekshonz. Our afekshonz divied us. We striek ruuts in imeediait tiem and spais, and faul in luv with our lokaliti, the kustomz, and the langwij in which we wer braut up. Intelijens yuniets us with mankiend bi leeding us in simpathi tu uther tiemz, uther plaisez, uther kustomz; but, furst, the prejoodist ruuts ov afekshon must be poold up. . . . Yet, if intelijens beginz in a pang, it

proseedz tu a vizhon. . . . But aul that intelijens haz akomplisht dwindlz in komparison with the vizhon it sujests and worants." Theez wurdz kum neer tu thoez hu wurk for the viktori ov intelijens in speling.

A VIEKOUNT on the Poppleside *Line*
Woz forbiden tu driev the *engine*,
But protested with *anger:*
"A fig for the *danger!*
It's good for the *liver*
Tu ried with the *driver*.
I feel mor *alive*
On a *locomotive:*
Whot yu ar up tu I kaan't *opine*."
So thai just let him driev the *engine*.

FORTI skolarz plied with sisorz and *glue*
On an English wurd-*catalogue:*
But, on geting tu "*through*,"
Sed: "The job iz tuu *tough*,
For the speling iz so *grotesque*.
Shal we trie on sum uther *tongue?*"

A NORTH DAKOTA paiper oferz the foloing apoloji tu wun ov its reederz:—"We wish tu apolojiez tu Mrs. Orland Overlook. In our paiper laast week we had az heding 'Mrs. Overlook's Big Feet.' The wurd we aut tu hav yuzd iz a French wurd pronounst in the saim wai, but speld *fête*."

"PRAKTIKAL reformerz . . . shood never slumber nor sleep. Thai shood keep thair greevansez befor the publik in seezon and out ov seezon. Thai shood hav their lamps burning, tu be redi whenever the riet tiem kumz. Thai shood repeet the saim thing oever and oever again, undismaid bi indiferens, ridikyul, kontemt, and aul the uther weponz which the laizi wurld noez so wel hou tu emploi against thoez hu ventyur tu disturb its pees." So Max Müller long agoe; but **hiz wurdz stil shaik us with pashon for batl.**

OUR good frend, Mr. Shield, ov Liverpool, riets: "I red mi paiper tu the memberz ov the Liverpool T.P.'z Surkl, and woz aibli suported bi Mr. Brodrick, hu maid sum ekselent remarks and did yoeman survis for the kauz. The number ov pursonz prezent woz oenli siksteen, but we manijd tu kaptyur ait ov them." And Mr. Shield goez on tu tel ov hiz intenshon tu hav in Liverpool a reali living Loekal Braanch ov the Sosieti. We kongratyulait him on hiz splendid evanjelizm, and wish that in everi siti the lamps kood be lieted in this intimait wai. Whi not drauing-room meetingz in which reform kood be diskust and understood—a nyu tiep ov Speling Bee plezanter than the oeld?

PROF. RIPPMANN iz viziting Mountain Ash on the 8th ov nekst munth tu adres the memberz ov the Loekal Asosiaishon ov the Nashonal Yunion ov Teecherz.

TUU dikshonariz ov noet ar nou maiking thair apeel tu the British publik. Wun, the *Standard*, wil be revyud bi Mr. Archer in our nekst isyu. It iz a wun-

derful wurk. The uther, the *British Empire Universities Modern English Dictionary*, iz aulso byutifuli prepaird, and poots everithing in kleer and konsies form. Artiklz ar kontribyuted bi distingwisht skolarz, and we ar glad tu see an akount ov the *History ov Speling*, bi Prof. Rippmann, given a plais ov prominens. In the sekshon which iz kauld " A Trezheri ov Fakts " simplified speling iz delt with, and our skeem iz set out in breef. We aknolej the kompliment: it iz a rekognishon ov the importans ov the subjekt. No dikshonari that klaimz tu be at aul kompleet kan omit deeling with the kwestion ov nyu speling. And, so far az shoing the pronunsiaishon iz konsurnd, everi dikshonari must needz spel intelijentli.

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PRES KUTINGZ OV THE MUNTH.

November.

LETERZ IN SIMPATHI WITH SPELING REFORM wer printed in: **Ayr Observer, Birmingham Weekly Post, Border Standard, Bristol Times and Mirror, Burton Daily Mail, Christian World, Cheltenham Examiner, Clapham Observer, Commercial Education, Daily Express, Daily Graphic, Daily Mail, Darwen News, Draper and Drapery Times, Dublin Express, Educational Times, Educational News, Evenng Standard, Forfar Review, Greenock Herald, Helensburgh News, Illustrated Chronicle, Indicator, Jewish World, John o'Groats Journal, Leicester Mail, Leinster Express, London Teacher, Montrose Standard, Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, Northern Weekly, Nottingham Express, Overseas Daily Mail, Pall Mall Gazette, Schoolmaster, Sheffield Telegraph, Southern Star, Sydenham Gazette, T.P.'s Weekly, Western Morning News, Yorkshire Post.**

SPESHAL ARTIKLZ BI PROF. RIPPMANN ("A Standerd Speech ov English," "Baibi Tauk and Skuul Speech") wer printed in: **Educational Times, Educational News, Birmingham Weekly Post, Irish Independent, Melton Mowbray Times.**

SPELING REFORM LEKTYURZ wer reported in: **Burton Observer, Derby Daily Express, Derby Daily Telegraph, Elgin Courant and Courier, Leicester Mail, Manchester Weekly News, Western Daily News.**

THE EDYUKAISHONAL KONFERENS tu be held in the Nyu Yeer iz menshond in: **Aberdeen Daily Journal, Daily Graphic, Education, Evening Standard, Glasgow Herald, Nottingham Evening Express, School Government Chronicle, Schoolmaster.**

"BIBLE SPELLING," a leter from Prof. W. Emery Barnes, a Vies-Prezident ov the Sosieti, apeerd in: **Aberdeen Evening Gazette, Baptist Times and Freeman, Cambridge Independent Press, Cheltenham Examiner, Christian World, Church Family Newspaper, Clapham Observer, Glasgow Evening Citizen, Globe, Gloucester Journal, Graphic, Jewish World, Leicester Advertiser, Manchester Courier, Morning Post, Northern Whig, Nottingham Express, Pall Mall Gazette, Star, United Methodist, Western Mail, Westminster Gazette, Yorkshire Post.**

"TIEM LOST BI SPELING," a leter from the Sekretari, woz printed in: **Ayr Observer, Belfast News Letter, Cambria Daily Teacher, Daily Mail, Dundee Advertiser, Evening Mail, Evening News, Glasgow Evening Times, Largs and Milport Weekly News, Leicester Mercury, Leicester Post, Schoolmaster, Sheffield Telegraph, Standard, Star, Star** (Guernsey).

EKSTRAKTS FROM "THE PIONEER" for November wer kwoeted in: **Commercial Education, Daily Graphic, Dundee Advertiser, Elgin Courant and Courier, Glasgow Evening Times, Northern Scot, Pullen's Kent Argus, Teachers' World, Yorkshire Evening Post**, and the **Huddersfield Examiner** and **Middlesex Advertiser** maid referens tu the booklet, *Simplified Spelling: an Appeal to Common Sense*.

ARTIKLZ ON SUR ISAAC PITMAN wer given in: **Bath and Wilts Chronicle, Bath Weekly Herald, Bradford Daily Telegraph, Bristol Times and Mirror, Western Press, Wiltshire News.**

FOETOGRAAFS OV A WOMAN PAIVMENT ARTIST displaiing piktyurz shoing "Dai and Niet in Speling" apeerd in: **Glasgow Evening Times, Reading Standard.**

S.S. WOZ REFURD TU in artiklz apeering in: **Daily Graphic, Daily Mirror, Daily Telegraph, Dundee Evening Telegraph, Irish News, Journal of Education, Leeds Mercury, School World, Standard.**

THE SPELING OV "PROGRAM" woz diskust in: **Carlisle Journal, Musical Opinion.**

THE **Newcastle Illustrated Chronicle** reprodyust a noetis ov the Easington Lane Water Co., Ltd., which kontaind several wurdz in S.S.

LETERZ FROM DEFENDERZ OV THE KONVENSHONAL SPELING wer printed in: **Pall Mall Gazette, Western Morning News, Yorkshire Post.**

EDITORIAL NOET.

THE PIONEER iz publisht everi munth, eksept for tuu munths in the sumer. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

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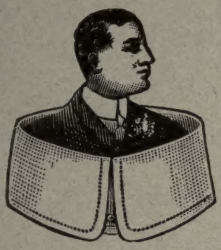

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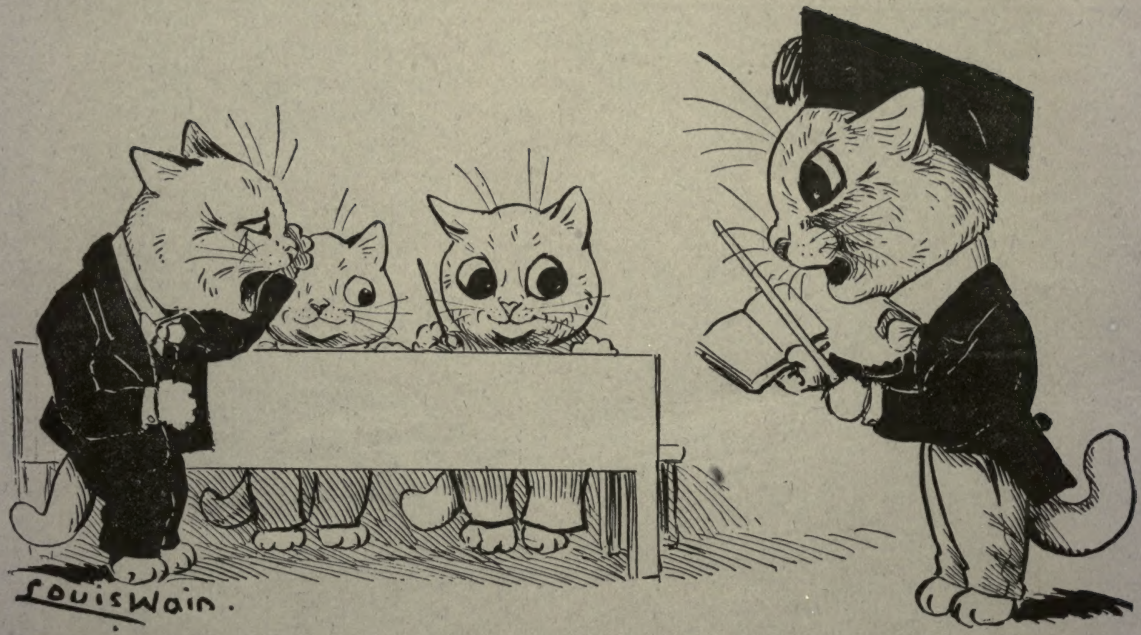

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